Closure of Shree Saggar Mills of Ratlam

117. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri Saggar Mills of Ratlam has been closed since February, 1985 and thousands of its workers are facing unprecedented hardships;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to get it reopened; and

(c) by when it is likely to start functioning again ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir, if the Hon'ble Member is referring to Shree Sajjan Mills of Ratlam.

(b) and (c) According to Textile Policy Statement of June, 1985, where a textile unit has no expectation of becoming viable, in a reasonable period of time, there is no scope for intervention of Government except to ensure that the interests of the workers as laid down in the policy are protected.

Construction of tourist cottages at Kanyakumari

118. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to construct tourist cottage at Kanyakumari through the India Tourism Development Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): ITDC has no proposal at present for construction of tourist cottages at Kanyakumari either on behalf of the Government of India or of its own.

Promotion of tourism in Uttar Pradesh

119. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of domestic and foreign tourists, other than pilgrims who visited Uttar Pradesh from tourism point of view during the last three years, yearwise;

(b) what is the comparison of the tourist traffic to Uttar Pradesh with the tourist in other States;

(c) if the tourist traffic to Uttar Pradesh is low, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) what steps Central Government propose to take for expansion of tourist facilities in Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) the amount earmarked for the expansion of tourist facilities in Uttar Pradesh during the current yeard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SAYEED): (a) Statistics of foreign tourist arrivals are compiled from disembarkation cards on an all-India basis and as such State-wise figures are not available. However, as per the Foreign Tourist Survey 1982-83, about 23.72 per cent of the foreign tourists visiting India spent at least a night in Uttar Pradesh.

As regards domestic tourism, no reliable statistics are available from the State Government.

(b) and (c) With a share of 23.72 per cent in the total tourist traffic, Uttar Pradesh is the third most popular State among the foreign ourists. The first two are De'hi (53.45 per cent) and Maharashtra 47.19 per cent) which are the main landing points of foreign tourists.

(d) Development of tourism facilities is a continous process and is mostly done jointly with the respective State Governments. The steps taken by the Central Governments in this regard during 7th plan period in the State of Uttar Pradesh include creation of wayside facilities along important roads, construction of low priced accommodation establishments like yatriniwases and yatrikas, improvement of air and rail sedvices, etc. India Tourism Development Corporation has also constructed a hotel at Agra.

(e) The Central Government assistance for the improvement of tourism facilities are provided to the State Governments on the basis of specific proposals received from them, inter-se priorities and availability of funds. Thus the Ministry has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 33.75 lakhs to the State Government during the current financial year and an amount of Rs. 25 lakhs has already been released.